Grants to Maulana Azad Foundation

1836. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided to the Maulana Azad Foundation has been as minority institution since its inception;

(b) the list of all the institutions which have been given such grants; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase the grants and make the functioning of the foundation more transparent?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) is a voluntary, non-political, non-profit making society to formulate and implement educational schemes for the benefit of weaker sections in general and educationally backward minorities in particular. The Government has provided Rs. 86.51 crores to the Foundation since its inception.

(b) The Government is also providing funds to Central Wakf Council. There is no other such institution funded by the Government.

(c) There is no proposal to increase the grant to MAEF in this financial year. As per the Memorandum of Association and provisions of schemes of the foundation, it is the Governing/General Body of the Foundation which is responsible for its functioning.

Shifting of TV Tower

† 1837. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request in 2003 from the Pradhans of Gram Panchayats of Chadhgaon Tehsil of Shimla district in Himachal Pradesh to shift TV Tower;

(b) if so, the reasons for not shifting the said TV Tower, so far; and

(c) by when Government propose to shift the TV Tower from Chadhgaon to Sundarali?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIS. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the site where VLPT Chirgaon is presently located, was selected from the point of view of optimum coverage. If VLPT is shifted to Sundarali, some areas presently receiving TV coverage are not likely to receive coverage. There is no proposal to shift VLPT, Chirgaon from its present site to Sundarali.

Time given by DD/AIR

1838. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time given by Doordarshan and All India Radio to the present Congress Party President in terms of hours and minutes etc. since 23rd May, 2004;

(b) the similar time given to the BJP President and Presidents of other national parties; and

(c) the corresponding figures for the same period last year for the persons mentioned above?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the statements of Party Heads and other leaders of various Political Parties are covered in the News Bulletins of AIR and DD. The details of time given by Doordarshan to Heads of Political Parties are as follows:-

Name of Political Party	Time given during 23.5.2004 to 31.10.2004			Time given during 23.5.2003 to 31.10.2003		
	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Congress Party*	08	01	55	03	28	53
BJP	04	10	50	05	28	45
NCP	01	33	10	00	27	26

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.